

Brief to the Iowa House Public Safety Committee Jan 21, 2010 on behalf of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB)

- Website for the Board. www.isicsb.iowa.gov
- Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) conducted training for the board on the topics of governance and our statewide communications interoperability plan (SCIP)
- Conclusion / Recommendation from Federal Engineering's (FE) 15 month planning process. (Not a Federal Agency) include:
 - ✓ Participation of 85% of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPS)
 - ✓ Over 240 survey responses from local law enforcement (Police and Sheriff), fire, emergency management and EMS providers
 - ✓ Phased implementation of a new 700 MHz voice/data system (6 phases)
 - ✓ Reuse existing sites with modifications as necessary
 - ✓ Total sites necessary to achieve 95% county coverage, 265
 - ✓ 265 sites consist of
 - Use 127 of the 175 existing DPS/DOT sites (why not all?)
 - 103 other existing sites could be considered (local L/E, cellular, other private)
 - 35 new sites
 - ✓ Iowa's 6 Homeland Security Regions serve as the footprint for the phases
 - ✓ Microwave and ICN make up the backbone of the system
 - ✓ Board executed a clause in the FE contract and had them do a repack of the 700 MHz frequencies to be in coordination with our Iowa Master Plan

- Selection of a consultant to provide Iowa with a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)
 - Contract awarded to Federal Engineering
 - Selection of individual should be completed by Feb 1, 2010
- Addition of four (4) members of the legislature to the Board
- Reappointment of the current Chair and Vice-Chair
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Federal Mandate of Narrow Banding January 1, 2013

(Analog vs. Digital)

What does it mean?

- Most current public safety radio systems use 25kHz-wide channels,
- 85% of Iowa's public safety radio systems are a combination of VHF (75%) and UHF (10%)
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has mandated that all non-federal public safety licenses using spectrum from 72-512 MHz that have 25 kHz radio systems migrate to narrowband 12.5 kHz channels by Jan 1, 2013
- Agencies that do not meet the deadline could face the loss of communications capabilities

- Agencies need to start planning now to migrate to narrow band systems by assessing their current radio equipment and applying for new or modified licenses
- Diagram below represents the spectrum that will be affected by narrow banding
- State shared Frequencies affected LEA, I.O.W.A. Channel & State Mutual AID

